The Benediction

of

Saint John's Home

Milwaukee

on the occasion of the
completion of the
new building

The Twenty=first Sunday after Trinity
November 9, 1924

The Benediction of Saint John's Home

¶ *The Clergy and people being assembled in a convenient place at the entrance to the Home, the Bishop shall say:*

✠ In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

Let us Pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father.

℣. Whoso dwelleth under the defence of the Most High:

℟. Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

℣. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost.

℟. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be; world without end. Amen.

℣. The Lord be with you.

℟. And with thy spirit.

Let us Pray.

Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings, with Thy most gracious favour, and further us with Thy continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in Thee, we may glorify Thy Holy Name, and finally, by Thy mercy, obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ *Then shall the Bishop say*:

In the Faith of Jesus Christ, and under the patronage of Saint John the Divine, we dedicate this Home to the glory of God; in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

In the Hall

℣. The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in:

℟. From this time forth for evermore.

Let us Pray.

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light, from whom every good thing hath its beginning, and receiveth its life and growth; We pray Thee send Thy blessing on this Home, and on all who shall dwell therein. May they be preserved by Thee both in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

In the Chapel

℣. I will go unto the Altar of God.

℟. I will go unto the Altar of God.

Let us Pray.

O God, Almighty Lord of holiness, whose loving kindness hath no end; O God, who rulest heaven and earth alike, who keepest Thy mercy for Thy people that walketh before the face of Thy glory; hear the prayer of Thy servants, that Thine eyes may watch over this Home day and night; and of Thy great mercy hallow this Chapel erected for holy mysteries in honour of the Blessed Trinity, and of Saint John the Divine. Enlighten it with Thy pity, glorify it with Thine own brightness. Graciously accept and look upon every one who cometh to worship Thee in this place, and for Thy great Name's sake, protect Thy suppliants in this House with Thy strong hand and Thy mighty arm. Hearken unto them, preserve them with Thine everlasting defence; that, ever rejoicing and gladly trusting in Thee, they may constantly persevere in the Catholic faith, and in the confession of the Holy Trinity. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Let us Pray.

O Lord God Almighty, who inhabitest eternity and yet humblest Thyself to dwell in Houses built by the hands of sinful men; We praise Thy Holy Name that Thou hast put it into the hearts of Thy servants to adorn and beautify this Chapel, that it may set forth the beauty of holiness to them that worship here; And we pray Thee that Thou wouldest vouchsafe to remember this to them for good. Forget not Thou their work and labour that proceedeth of love; but bestow Thy rewards upon them, both in this life which now is, and also in that which is to come. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

In the Living Room

℣. Behold, how good and joyful a thing it is:

℟. For brethren to dwell together in unity.

Let us Pray.

O Almighty God, grant unto Thy servants whom, from time to time, Thou shalt bring together in Thy providence to dwell as one household in this place, that they may dwell in love and peace together according to Thy law. Grant that, as Thou hast placed us in various kindreds, friendships, and relations, as the school of discipline for our affections; so by the due exercise thereof we may improve to perfection; till all partial affection be lost in the entire universal love of Thee; and Thou, O God, shalt be all in all; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

In the Dining Room

℣. Whether ye eat or drink, or whatsoever ye do:

℟. Do all to the glory of God.

Let us Pray.

O Lord, who hast ordained that by daily food we shall renew our strength for daily labour; Bless, we pray Thee, this room to the use of Thy servants in their social meals. Pour Thy grace into their hearts, that, being here nourished by Thy gifts, and

living in cheerful harmony one with another, they may be enabled to render to Thee thanks and praise in the keeping of Thy commandments; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

In the Bed Rooms

℣. I will lay me down in peace, and take my rest:

℟. For it is Thou, Lord, only, that makest me dwell in safety.

Let us Pray.

O most merciful Father, who givest to Thy beloved sleep, and to Thy wearied ones rest; May those Thy servants, who shall occupy these chambers, lie down in peace, and may their sleep be sweet to them. Give Thine angels charge concerning them, to keep them in body and soul; when they wake may they rise with renewed strength and thankful hearts, devoting to Thy service day by day the life which Thou lengthenest; and when at last they lie down to die, grant to them a peaceful passing and a blessed resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

HYMN 457

Christ is made the sure foundation,
  Christ the head and corner-stone,
Chosen of the Lord, and precious,
  Binding all the Church in one,
Holy Sion's help for ever,
  And her confidence alone.

All that dedicated city,
  Dearly loved of God on high,
In exultant jubilation
  Pours perpetual melody;
God the One in Three adoring
  In glad hymns eternally.

To this temple, where we call thee,
  Come, O Lord of Hosts, to-day;
With thy wonted loving-kindness,
  Hear thy servants as they pray:
And thy fullest benediction
  Shed within its walls alway.

Here vouchsafe to all thy servants
What they ask of thee to gain,
What they gain from thee, for ever
With the blessèd to retain,
And hereafter in thy glory
Evermore with thee to reign. Amen.

Address

Let us Pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, who art the chief Corner Stone of Thy Church; Bless this Home which is now completed in Thy Name, and grant that it may tend to promote Thy Glory, and the welfare of Thy people in this place. Fill those who shall dwell in it with a spirit of love towards Thee, and towards all men. Within these walls may harsh thoughts be ever subdued, and unkind words unspoken, and may those who here shall learn the way of Thy statutes, walk before Thee with a perfect heart, and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Blessed be Thy Name, O Lord, that it hath pleased Thee to put into the hearts of Thy servants to build this Home to Thy honour and glory. Bless, O Lord, them and their families, and accept the works of their hands; remember them concerning this; wipe not out this kindness that they have shewed for the aged; and grant that all who shall enjoy the benefit of this work, may show forth their thankfulness to the glory of Thy blessed Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Visit, O Lord, we beseech Thee, this Home, and drive far from it all the snares of the enemy; let Thy holy angels dwell herein to preserve us in peace; and let Thy blessing be upon us evermore. *Amen.*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

HYMN 226

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven, to earth come down!
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
All thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love thou art;
Visit us with thy salvation,
Enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver,
Let us all thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be alway blessing;
Serve thee as thy hosts above;
Pray, and praise thee without ceasing;
Glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation,
Pure and spotless let us be:
Let us see thy great salvation,
Perfectly restored in thee:
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heaven we take our place:
Till we cast our crowns before thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise. Amen.